

**Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 9, 2001**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1234
(Representative DeKrey)

AN ACT to amend and reenact section 23-12-14 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to consent to release of medical records.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 23-12-14 of the 1999 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

23-12-14. Copies of medical records.

1. As used in this section, "medical provider" means a licensed individual or licensed facility providing health care services. This section applies to every medical provider unless expressly provided otherwise by law. Upon the written request of a medical provider's patient or any person authorized by a patient, the medical provider shall:
 - a. Provide a free copy of a patient's medical records to a medical provider designated by the patient or the person authorized by the patient if the records are requested for the purpose of transferring that patient's medical care to another medical provider for the continuation of medical treatment.
 - b. Provide a copy of a patient's medical records requested for any purpose other than the continuation of care for a maximum charge of twenty dollars for the first twenty-five pages and seventy-five cents per page for every page beyond twenty-five. This charge includes any administrative fee, retrieval fee, and postage expense.
2. a. Except as specified in section 26.1-36-12.4 or subsection 3, a written medical records release must be for a specific stated time, but not to exceed three years or until revoked in writing by the patient is valid for the period of time specified in the release or three years, whichever is shorter.
 - b. A patient or any person authorized by the patient may revoke a medical records release at any time by providing written notification to the medical provider.
3. Notwithstanding the period of validity under subdivision a of subsection 2, a signed medical records release authorizes a medical provider to forward a patient's medical records to another medical provider during the period of time necessary to complete the patient's course of treatment and to conclude all medical and financial aspects of the case.

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1234.

House Vote: Yeas 95 Nays 0 Absent 3

Senate Vote: Yeas 49 Nays 0 Absent 0

Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2001.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2001.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2001,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State